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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT



**TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER
LAUNCH COMPLEX J**

Declass Review
by NIMA/DOD

OCTOBER 1967
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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

TYURATAM MISSILE TEST CENTER LAUNCH COMPLEX J

OCTOBER 1967

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

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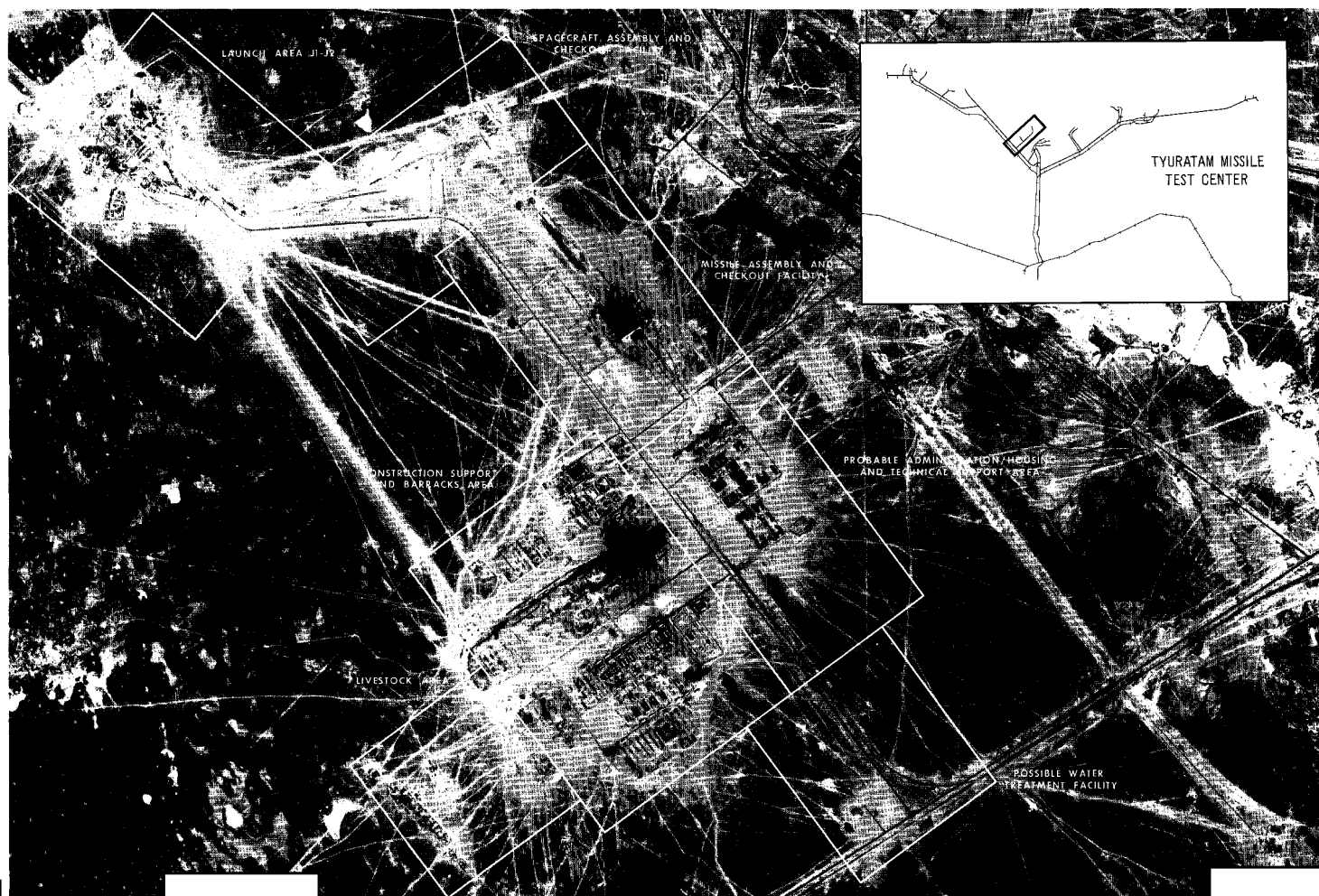
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This report updates [redacted] Tyuratam Missile Test Center, Launch Complex J, 1/ and provides a description of the changes that have occurred during the period [redacted]. Construction has continued in all portions of Launch Complex J (Figure 1) since [redacted].

Launch Area J1-J2

Within Launch Area J1-J2, (Figure 2) much of the construction activity has been concerned with the continuation of work already started, and described in previous reports. Both launch pads (Figures 3 through 8) now have reached ground level, and Pad J1 has been completely backfilled; backfilling around Pad J2 is not yet complete. Gantry track foundations have been extended to the point where they join each launch pad, and the laying of standard-gauge rail track has begun on both lanes of the gantry track foundation.

Most of the large arch-roofed buildings between the launch pads have been completed externally and earth mounded. An additional arch-roofed building (Item 48, Figure 2) is presently under construction in this vicinity, and a structure previously thought to be the foundation for a single large building is now the site of 3 separate smaller buildings (Items 49-51, Figure 2).

Many of the conduits previously observed under construction have been completed and backfilled. Two such conduits can be traced from the largest of the buildings between the launch pads to the square building forward of each pad (Items 16 and 31, Figure 2).

The building forward of each pad now appears to be the base for a large pivot structure, approximately [redacted] in diameter, about which a service tower/erector will be turned. This structure is already under construction forward of Pad J1, (Items 40 and 41, Figure 2) and preparations are being made to construct another forward of Pad J2 (Item 59, Figure 2). The service tower/erector is constructed upon a large triangular base which spans the entire distance between the pivot structure and the arcuate track concentric to it (Figure 4). One corner of this triangular base is attached to the pivot structure and the other 2 corners apparently are supported by truck assemblies which will ride upon the track as the whole structure pivots onto the launch pad. Above one corner of the triangular base, a vertical shaft has been erected to a current height of approximately 280 feet. An open framework of structural steel also has been erected above the base to a present height of approximately 180 feet. One leg of this framework is formed by the vertical shaft while the other 2 legs are inclined toward the shaft, producing an asymmetric taper to the entire framework.

As previously reported, a pair of low, rectangular buildings flanks each launch pad (Items 14, 17, 32, and 38, Figure 2). Each of these buildings has 2 ramp-like vertical walls constructed at right angles to the long axis. The buildings are aligned across the center of their respective launch pads, and those flanking Pad J1 have been at least partially earth mounded. A conduit, with a square cross section, connects each building to the end of the nearest flume of the blast deflector. The location of these buildings along the pitch axis of the missile, and their connection to the launch pads, suggests that they may house instrumentation positions.

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A rail spur recently laid along the west side of the group of buildings between the launch pads has been extended into the northwest corner of the launch area where a fence-secured loading dock has been constructed. Previously, this spur also had been observed to enter each of the 3 transverse sections on the west side of the large multisectioned building (Item 25, Figure 2). Another spur previously provided temporary rail service to each of the 3 eastern transverse sections of this same building. Flanking each side of this large building are 3 small structures, each of which is connected to the building by conduit which enters through the transverse sections.

Considerable new ditching has been opened and closed at various locations within the launch area. The longest of these is a pair of ditches which extends from the forward central portion of the launch area to a dry lake bed located well over a mile to the north-northeast. The present terminus of these ditches within the launch area is just forward of the previously reported large unidentified rectangular structure (Item 29, Figure 2) near the fence-line. Other ditches can be observed throughout the launch area, but specific identification of their purpose is seldom possible.

Spacecraft Assembly and Checkout Facility

Perhaps the most significant, new development at Launch Complex J is the addition of a new facility east of the gantry tracks, and between the launch area and the missile assembly and checkout facility (Figure 9). Presently in an early stage of construction, it consists primarily of a large clerestory building flanked on either side by a smaller building, each of which has one high bay and a parallel low bay. One other small building and a number of excavations, some including foundations, are located nearby. Ditching, both open and closed, can be traced throughout the facility. One lane of the heavily constructed gantry track foundation has been extended into the facility and apparently will serve the center bay of the large clerestory building. A roadway, electric power, and a probable water main have been brought into the facility from other portions of Complex J, and a railroad is under construction which will link it with the recently identified spacecraft building at Launch Complex A. This rail connection with the spacecraft building at Complex A, and the heavily constructed track foundation which apparently will connect the facility with Launch Area J1-J2, is strongly suggestive of a spacecraft assembly and checkout function. Construction for this facility was first seen in [redacted] and can be negated approximately one month earlier on [redacted].

Missile Assembly and Checkout Facility

Construction has continued at several points within the missile assembly and checkout facility (Figure 10). A single lane of the gantry track foundation is being extended along the west side of the missile assembly building (MAB) to a point off the southern end of the MAB where it will form a wye, fork, and enter each of the 2 large doors in the south end of the building. It apparently is being constructed to withstand the same heavy loads that the main portion of the gantry track foundation will support.

On the north side of the MAB, the gantry track foundation

appears to have been completed. At several points along each lane of the foundation, the lane widens and then narrows abruptly. The reason for this is not yet apparent. A concrete hardstand containing at least 8 small unidentified objects has been constructed between the 2 western lanes of the gantry track foundation, near the point where the single-lane bypass diverges from the main portion. In the receiving area east of the MAB, a new building foundation is under construction.

The largest of the buildings immediately west of the MAB is identified as a compressor building, probably for air conditioning, and the adjacent large building (Item 23, Figure 10) is probably a maintenance building to service the compressors. The small building west of the probable maintenance building is a forced-draft cooling tower. The probable launch control building has been completed and earth mounded, and a small building and an earthen basin have been added just south of it.

An artist's concept, and a plan view and elevation of the MAB are shown in Figures 11 and 12.

Probable Administration/Housing and Technical Support Area

Most of the activity within this area (Figure 13) has been related to the completion of construction begun and reported previously. Two 3-story masonry buildings (Items 75 and 76, Figure 13), one of which is still under construction, have been added to the group of multistory buildings at the southwest end of the area. An additional building foundation is also under construction in this vicinity (Item 77, Figure 13). At the northern end of the facility, one new building has been added, and several others previously under construction have been completed. Two roads have been built, connecting the probable administration/housing and technical support area with the road which joins Complexes A and J.

Construction Support and Barracks Area

Although numerous buildings have been added to this portion of the complex (Figure 14), most of these additions have been small miscellaneous buildings scattered throughout the area. Within the barracks area, 3 long, narrow, single-story, frame buildings (probably quarters) have been added near the southeast end of the area (Item 189, Figure 14), and there are indications that 3 others are planned. Two new T-shaped messhalls have been built (Item 139, Figure 14), making a total of 5, and several other small buildings are also new. Two revetted storage tanks have been erected within the tank farm, and in the open storage area, a number of buildings have been added and removed.

Ancillary Facilities

Several shed-type buildings have been added in the livestock area (Figure 15), indicating some expansion of these facilities.

At the possible water treatment facility (Figure 16) near the entrance to the complex, the 2 large tanks have been earth mounded. At present, the eastern tank is undergoing alteration, as part of the mounding has been removed and the top of the tank has been taken off. A security fence has been built around the tanks and the adjacent probable pumphouse, and a separate fence has been built around the small building several hundred feet to the south. The facility is now road served.

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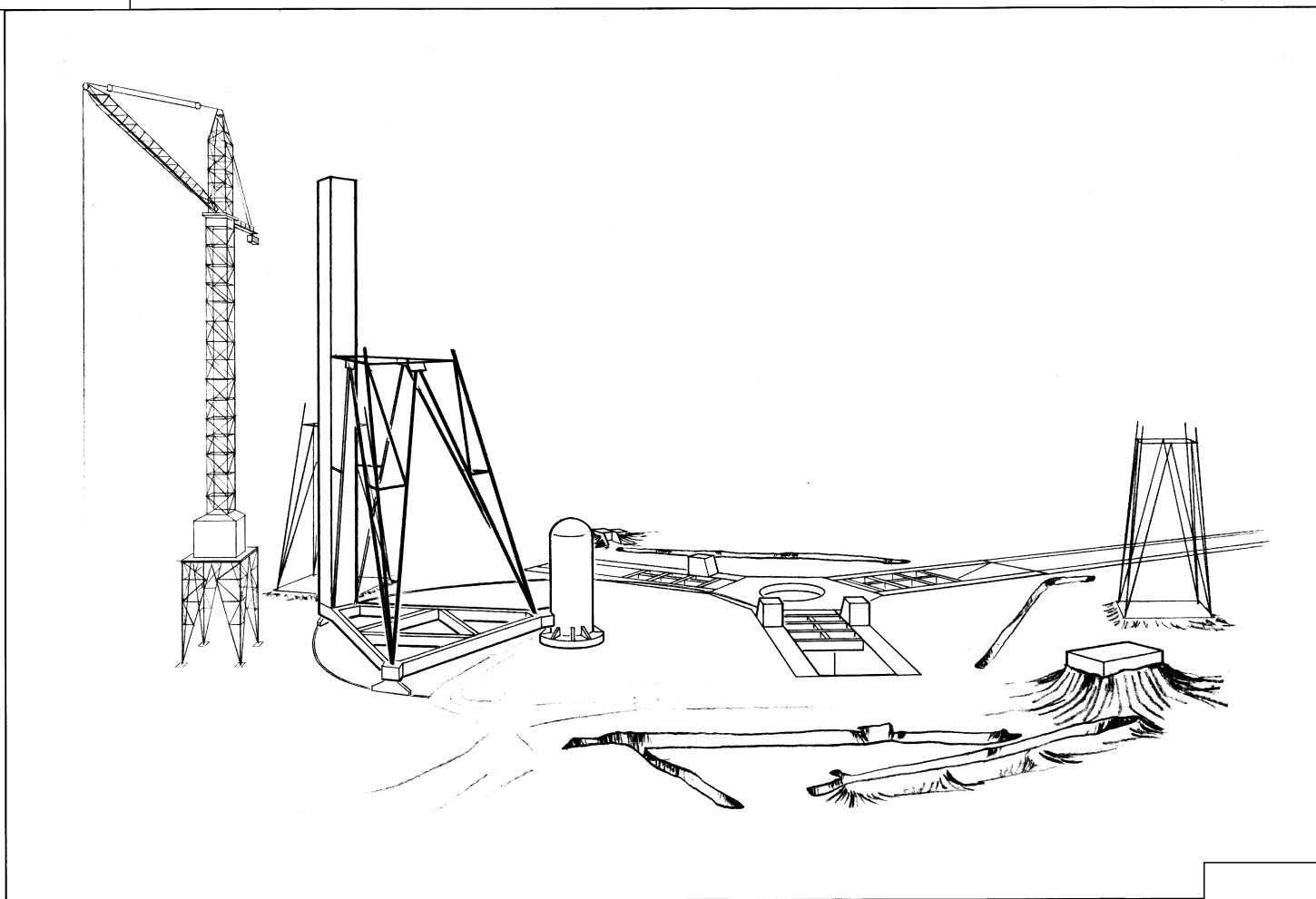


FIGURE 6. ARTIST'S CONCEPT OF PAD J1, LAUNCH AREA J1-J2.

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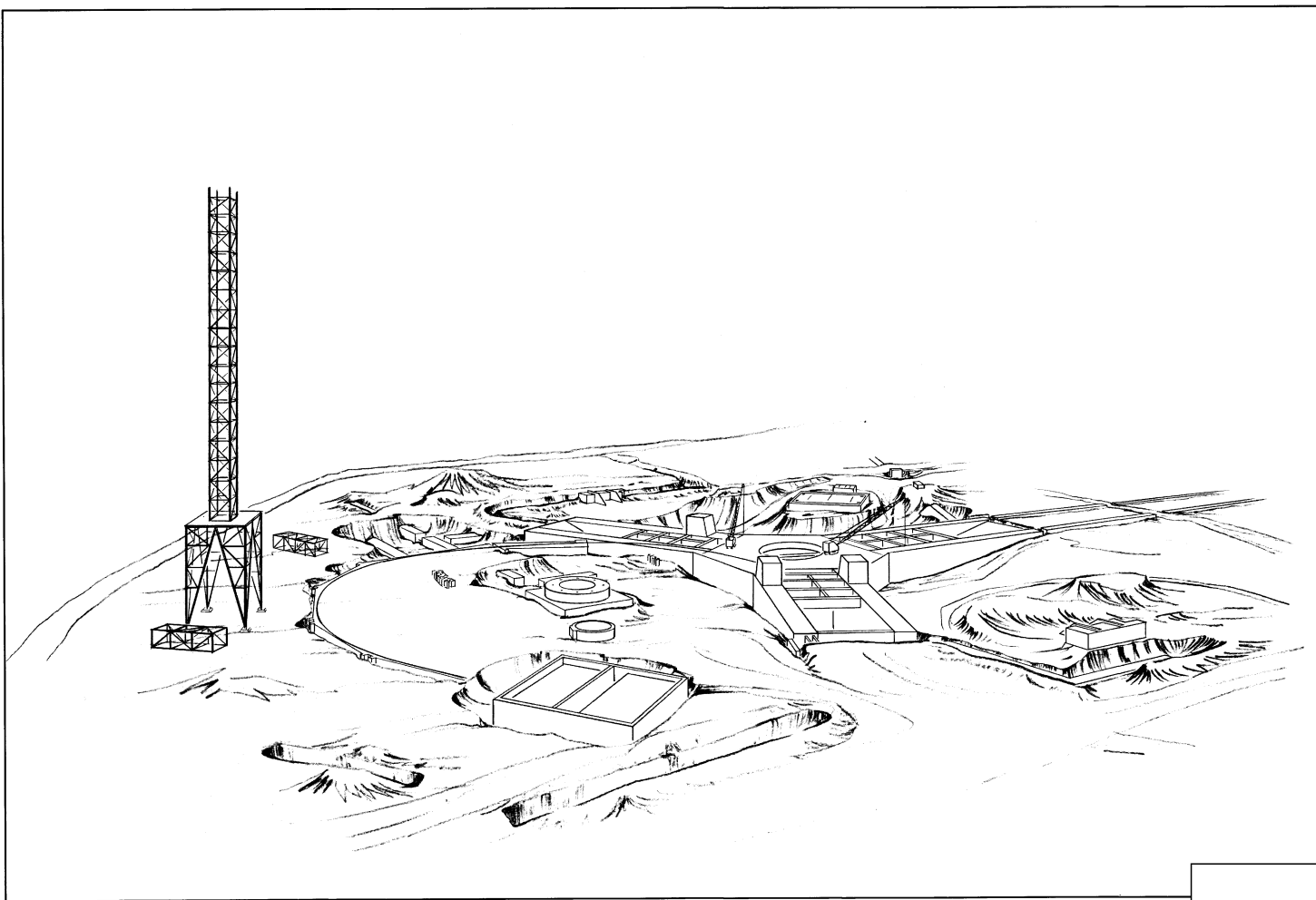


FIGURE 8. ARTIST'S CONCEPT OF PAD J2, LAUNCH AREA J1-J2.

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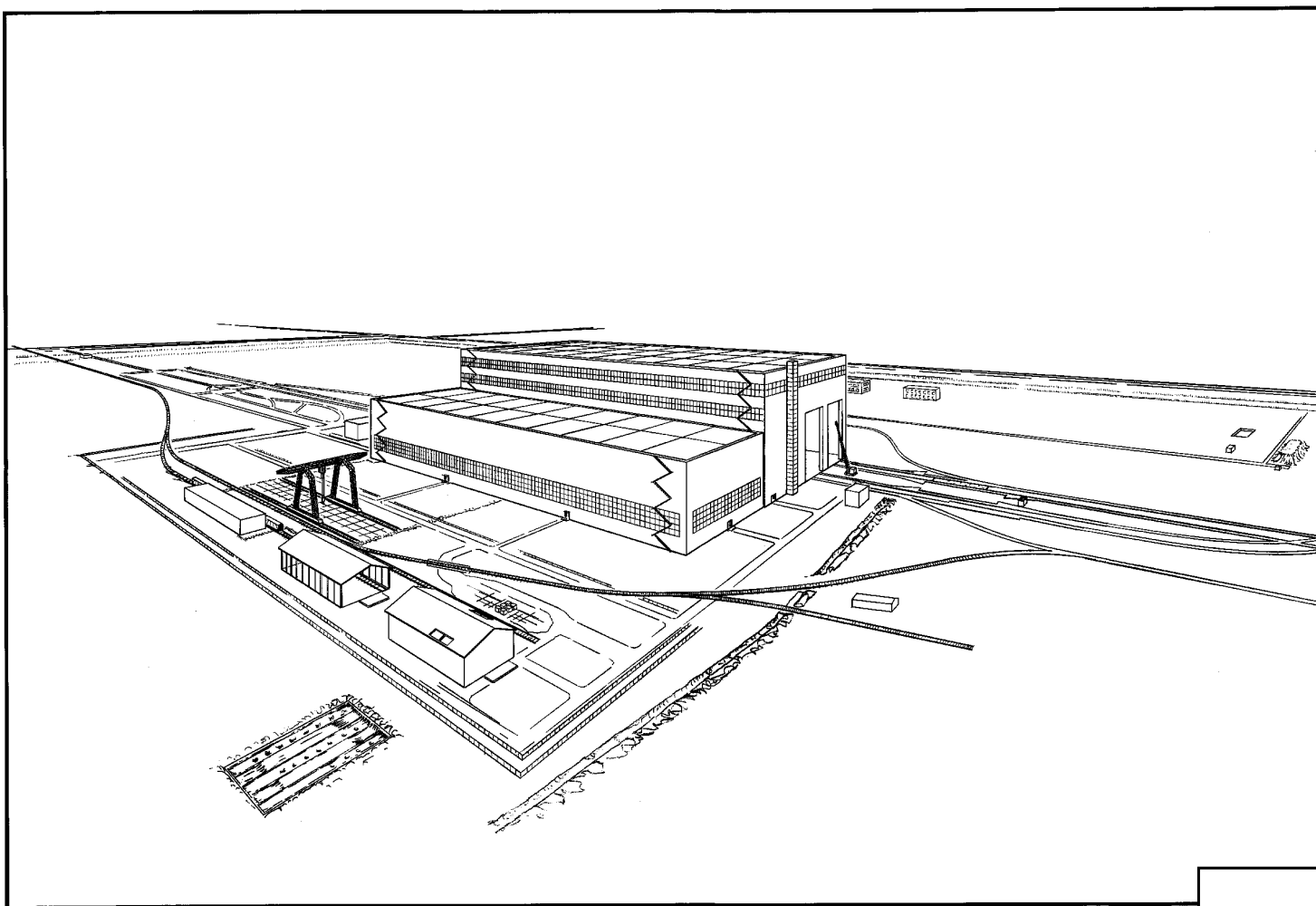
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FIGURE 11. ARTIST'S CONCEPT OF MISSILE ASSEMBLY BUILDING, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

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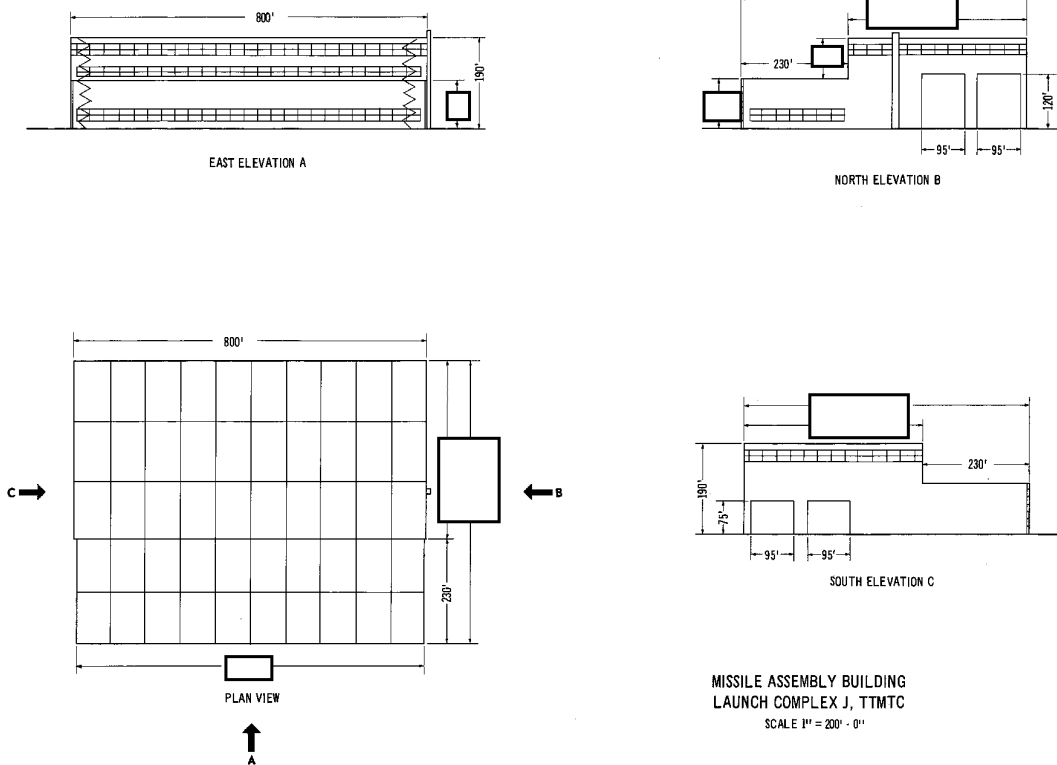


FIGURE 12. PLAN VIEW AND ELEVATION OF MISSILE ASSEMBLY BUILDING, LAUNCH COMPLEX J.

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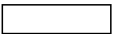
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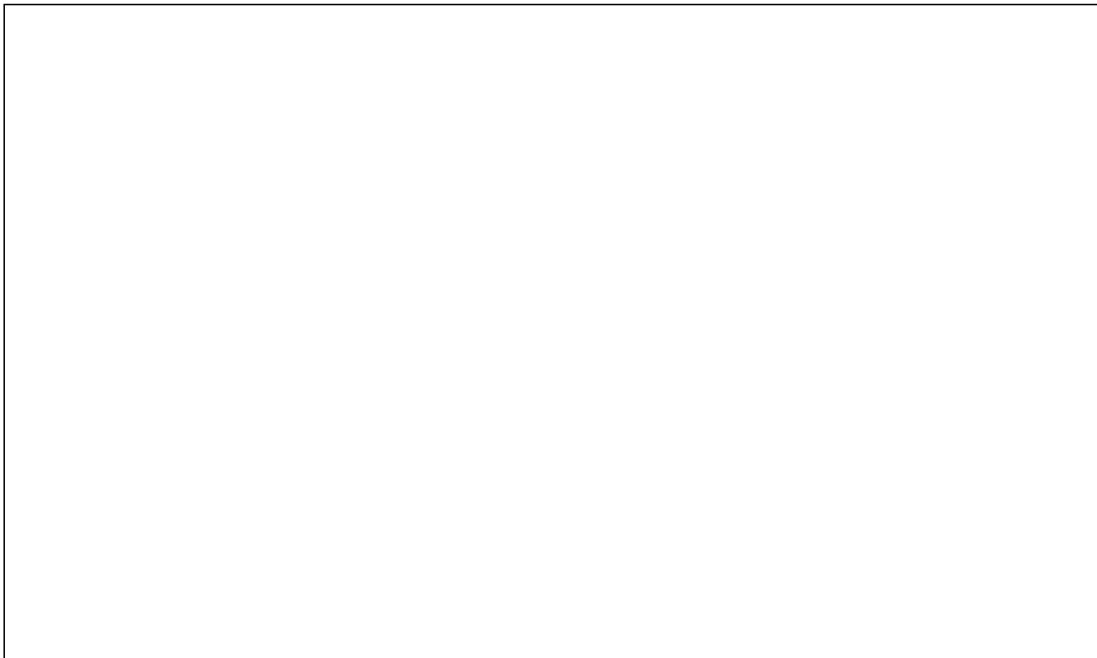
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
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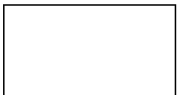
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